

Acting Deputy for Security

21 September 1948

Chief, Security Control Staff

Clearance of Personnel for Cryptographic Duties

1. On 14 September 1948 I had a discussion with Lt. Col. J. D. Land, Rm. 2D826, Pentagon, Telephone Extension 74066 and Capt. B. F. Spitzmiller, Rm. 2D826 Pentagon, Telephone Extension 4822 both of ID, Operations Branch, Security Group. Col. Land and Capt. Spitzmiller are handling the security clearances of Army personnel for cryptographic duties.

2. The purpose of this discussion was to determine from the Army their general reaction to CIA's judgement with respect to the clearance of personnel for cryptographic duties. The undersigned explained that our clearance decisions would be based upon reports as a result of complete investigations and in this respect it was considered that such reports more than met the investigative requirements as set forth in the current Army Directive on clearances for cryptographic personnel.

3. The undersigned specifically referred to Paragraph 3b. of the Army Directive which states that individuals cleared for cryptographic duties will be selected under the policy that they have no intimate connection with foreigners in the U.S. or in foreign countries. It was explained that some CIA personnel being considered for cryptographic clearance might have intimate connections with foreigners. However, that such personnel if cleared for cryptographic duties by this Agency would have previously met security requirements for access to TOP SECRET material. The undersigned stated that under these conditions it was believed that CIA would, unless the Army had objections, grant cryptographic clearance.

4. Col. Land said that ID would liken CIA to a command function and the Agency would have the authority and responsibility of command to either approve or disapprove its personnel for cryptographic clearance. The undersigned presented the case of one of our employees whose sister was married to a Britisher and that in this instance, based upon a complete investigation report, the Agency would be willing to grant the employee cryptographic clearance. Col. Land said he could see no objections to this decision.

5. Forwarded herewith are two copies each of the latest Army Directives on the clearance of personnel for cryptographic duties. Col. Land said that ID would be willing to confer with CIA at any time if this Agency had any questions of interpretation on which it felt it needed advice.

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